

Minutes from Council Meeting
July 22, 2008
Shakertown

Members present: Evelyn Morgan, Vice Chair, Alan Branscum, James Funk, Robert Roquemore Tom Fitzgerald, Cheryl Messenger, Marcus Norton. Members not present: Horace Brown, Greg Higdon

Vice-Chair Evelyn Morgan opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes and Mr. Branscum moved to accept the minutes from the April 2008 meeting. Dr. ?? seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Budget: Ms. Eller reviewed the budget with the Council Members. The total amount of the agency budget for this fiscal year will be approximately \$600,000. This includes \$150,000 from environmental fines and penalties, \$270,000 from the Pride Fund, and \$185,000 in grants.

After paying salaries, benefits, basic operating costs, and funding for KUPÉE grants, and the Stormwater Program, the Council will have approximately \$99,000 for program costs. This will allow us to underwrite costs for updating the master plan, administering the environmental knowledge survey, supporting Green Schools and certification and putting seed money into some new projects.

Personnel: Staff member John LeFevre has taken another position in the Department of Education and a new employee, Michele Nevels will start in August. Michelle is a former middle school science teacher and has a strong background in accounting as well.

Maria Zoretic will be leaving in December and we will be looking for a new person for that position beginning in October.

Our employees on the Transportation Cabinet grant will be rehired for at least one more year. However, this funding will almost certainly end after this year so we will need to seek other funding to continue this program.

MS-4 Stormwater Program

Dr. Meichtry presented a summary of the MS-4 program to date including a description of the contents of the toolkits. Council members discussed the program and its advantages to the phase two communities as well as strategies for continuing the program.

Coal Education Assistance: Ms. Eller described to Council members work she has been doing the coal education program to help that program balance the educational message contained in their curriculum. She said this had taken considerable time but she felt it would improve that program and provide assistance to a parallel program in the Environment and Energy Cabinet.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked Ms. Eller to let the Council know what accountability will be added to that program in the future.

Green and Healthy Schools:

Maria shared the Green Schools design manual with Council members and described how it would be used to help school districts how to proceed in the decisions related to the design of new schools. She also told council members she would be attending the USGBC awards ceremony in Boston in November to receive the Award for outstanding green curriculum.

Ms. Morgan asked if there was any other old or new business. There being none, the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting, October 22, 2008 at Berry Hill Mansion in Frankfort,

After the meeting, Council members were invited to participate in an EE activity in which they were given a nature scavenger hunt to locate around the meeting place.